

DISCLOSURE DIVISION

☒ **WAIVER REQUEST**
☐ **ANSWER**
☐ **RECONSIDERATION REQUEST**
☐ **UNTIMELY**

DATE: 7/16/2021

DOCKET #: 2021-670

Ashley Wimberley, Director
Disclosure Division

FILER INFORMATION

Name: Ms. Debra Dufresne Vial
Address: 13979 River Road, Luling, LA 70070
Office/Position: Regional Planning Commission
of Disclosures/Amendments Filed with Agency: 4
Years Covered: 2018-2020
Final Report: No (Final Year 2020)

REPORT INFORMATION

Name of Report: Tier 2.1 Annual Personal Financial Disclosure covering calendar year 2019
Report ID: PFD21003285
Original Due Date: 7/6/2020
NOD Received: 3/29/2021
NOD Signed by: Mail Carrier KPB - C-19
PFD/Answer Due Date based on NOD: 4/8/2021
PFD/Answer Filed: 4/14/2021

LATE FEE INFORMATION

Amount of Late Fee: \$300
Days late from receipt of NOD: 6
Total days late from initial due date: 282
Late Fee Order Received: 5/8/2021
Payment/Waiver Request Due Date: 5/28/2021
Waiver Request Received: 5/12/2021

COMMENTS:

Debra Dufresne Vial stated due to the Covid-19 Pandemic the St. Charles Parish Regional Planning Commission monthly board meetings were held virtually. The virtual meetings disrupted their normal practices and reminders were either not sent or received. Once she received the NOD, she immediately uploaded her 2019 disclosure. Ms. Vial resigned from the board in November 2020; And respectfully asks the Ethics Board to waive her late fee assessment, as these are unprecedented times we all have experienced due to the pandemic. This is Ms. Vial's first late fee assessment.

OTHER LATE FEE INFORMATION

Disclosure Statements:

- Other Outstanding Statements: No
- Other Outstanding Late Fees: No
- Prior Late Fees: No
- Reassessed Late Fees: No

Campaign Finance:

- Outstanding Late Fees: No
- Prior Late Fees: No

May 12, 2021

Louisiana Board of Ethics
P O Box 4368
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821

Dear Board Members,

I have served on the Regional Planning Commission as the St. Charles Parish Community representative since appointment in January 2018. Meetings are held monthly in New Orleans, LA which I have never missed during the 3 years I served - January 2018 through November 2020.

During 2020, the pandemic necessitated that the monthly meetings be held virtually. I continued to participate in the board meetings throughout 2020 virtually from my home, as did most commission members. The pandemic and the disruption of normal practices has impacted everyone and the usual reminders and notices were either not sent or not received. This was not intentional refusal to file.

Upon receipt of a Failure to File letter by Certified Mail, I realized the 2019 disclosure statement had not been submitted. I immediately filed electronically on 4/14/2021, which I have confirmation of receipt by the Ethics Commission staff. Additionally, it became necessary that I resign from my position on the Regional Planning Commission in November 2020.

When I contacted the Board of Ethics office upon receipt of the Failure to File 2019 letter to confirm the online filing process, I was advised to file the 2020 FINAL financial disclosure report as well. Therefore, I also completed filing the 2020 FINAL disclosure report to the Ethics Board which I have confirmation has been received as well.

I respectfully request the Late Fee Assessment be waived by the Board due to the unprecedented time we have experienced and are just beginning to return to some semblance of how life was before COVID.

Thank you in advance for your support of this request.

Best regards,

Debra Dufresne Vial



STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE CIVIL SERVICE
LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

P. O. BOX 4368
BATON ROUGE, LA 70821
(225) 219-5600
FAX: (225) 381-7271
1-800-842-6630
www.ethics.la.gov

CERTIFIED MAIL

NO. 70200090000057835774

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

March 26, 2021

Debra Dufresne Vial
13979 River Road
Luling, LA 70070

RE: NOTICE OF DELINQUENCY - FAILURE TO FILE
Statement covering 2019 (originally due on July 6, 2020)
Regional Planning Commission

Dear Ms. Vial:

Pursuant to La. R.S. 42:1124.4, if a person fails to file a Personal Financial Disclosure Statement as required by 42:1124, 1124.2, 1124.2.1, or 1124.3; omits information; or files inaccurately, a Notice of Delinquency shall be issued. A review of our records indicates that we have not received your Personal Financial Disclosure Statement.

You have 7 business days from the date of receipt of this Notice to file your Tier 2.1 Personal Financial Disclosure Statement covering 2019, which was originally due on July 6, 2020, or to submit an Answer explaining why you feel you are not required to file a Personal Financial Disclosure Statement. Failure to file a Personal Financial Disclosure Statement or an Answer within the 7 business days will subject you to an automatic late fee of \$50 per day up to a maximum of \$1,500. Proof of timely filing is determined by the U.S. Postal Service postmark; commercial delivery service; fax, upload, or electronic filing confirmation date stamp.

The form for the Tier 2.1 Personal Financial Disclosure Statement (Form 417) is available on the Louisiana Board of Ethics website at www.ethics.la.gov. If you have any questions, you may contact me at 225/219-5600 or 800/842-6630.

Sincerely,

Lisa Ford
Program Compliance Officer

SENDER: COMPLETE THIS SECTION

- Complete items 1, 2, and 3.
 - Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.
 - Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.
1. Article Addressed to

ETHICS BOARD REC'D
MAR 31 '21 PM 1:48

Debra Dufresne Vial
13979 River Road
Luling, LA 70070



5774

2. 7020 0090 0000 5783 5774

PS Form 3811, July 2015 PSN 7530-02-000-9053

COMPLETE THIS SECTION ON DELIVERY

A. Signature

X

C-19

☐ Agent

☐ Addressee

B. Received by (Printed Name)

KPR

C. Date of Delivery

D. Is delivery address different from item 1?

☐ Yes

If YES, enter delivery address below:

☐ No

LF

W/B

2019

3. Service Type

- ☐ Adult Signature
- ☐ Adult Signature Restricted Delivery
- ☐ Certified Mail®
- ☒ Certified Mail Restricted Delivery
- ☐ Collect on Delivery
- ☐ Collect on Delivery Restricted Delivery
- ☐ Insured Mail

- ☐ Priority Mail Express®
- ☐ Registered Mail™
- ☐ Registered Mail Restricted Delivery
- ☐ Return Receipt for Merchandise
- ☒ Signature Confirmation™
- ☐ Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery

Restricted Delivery

Domestic Return Receipt

File Recieved by Website Upload
May 12, 2021 3:37 pm

Document Type: Waiver Request/Appeal

Filer Name: Debra Dufresne Vial

Filer E-mail: debbie@514enterprises.com

Original File Name: Ethics Commission Letter.pdf

Page Count: 1

Final File Name: 20210512_637564306466738058.pdf